

ROGER CORMAN PRESENTS

WELCOME TO

# the LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

adapted by J.R. WILLIAMS \* pencils by GENE FAMA \* inks by DEAN  
ROHRER \* cover by KILIAN PLUNKETT \* lettering by NICK CRAINE \*  
colors by CARY PORTER \* edited by ROBERT BOYD \* design by BARRY  
E. EAMES \* director of publishing MARCUS BASTIDA

Welcome to the Little Shop of Horrors is adapted from the film The Little Shop of Horrors  
written by Charles B. Griffith and directed by Roger Corman.

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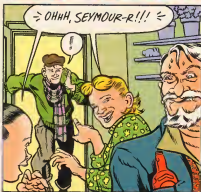
WELCOME TO  
the **LITTLE SHOP OF**  
**HORRORS**

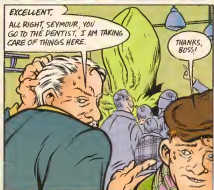
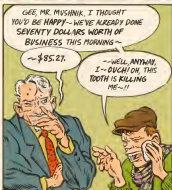


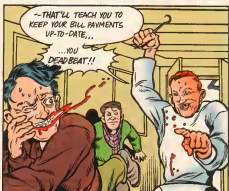
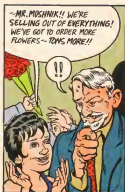
**J.R. WILLIAMS**  
**GENE FAMA**  
**DEAN ROHRER**

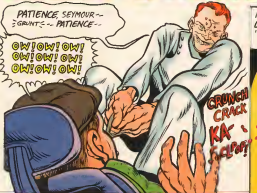


ISN'T  
IT EXCITING  
MR. MUSHIK?



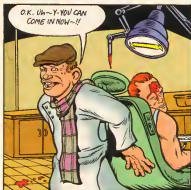














MANY AGONIZING MINUTES LATER...

WELL, DR. FARB--IT'S BEEN QUITE AN AFTERNOON! I CAN'T REMEMBER WHEN I'VE ENJOYED MYSELF SO MUCH-- I'LL RECOMMEND YOU TO ALL MY FRIENDS!

OKAY-- G'BYE!

'BYE!

THAT NIGHT...

FEED ME!

TAKE IT EASY, "DRACULA"! WHADDAYA THINK I GOT HERE --MY DIRTY LAUNDRY?!

FOOOOD!

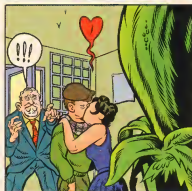
SOON...

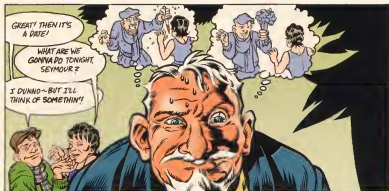
SO LONG, DR. FARB... YOU WERE A LOUSY DENTIST, BUT YOU WEREN'T SUCH A BAD GUY... YOU SURE DESERVED BETTER THAN THIS...

CRUNCH  
CRACK

--YOU WANT ANYTHING ELSE?!

BELCH







EXCELLENT, BUT JUST THE SAME...  
TONIGHT, I AM STAYING HERE TO KEEP  
AN EYE ON THAT FUCHSLUGGER PLANT!



MR. MUKHNIK?

I REPRESENT THE SOCIETY OF  
SILENT FLOWER OBSERVERS OF  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

REALLY? FOR  
SUCH A "SILENT"  
GROUP, THAT'S A VERY  
LONG NAME!

HEH-HEH!



ER~ YES, QUITE...  
TELL ME, PLEASE...WHO  
CREATED THAT MAGNIFICENT  
BLOOM?

AH!  
WELL~  
=AHEM=



I DID~ ME!  
SEYMOUR  
KRELBOINED...

I SEE! WELL,  
MR. KRELBOINED~



~IS THIS PLANT A FREAK  
OF SOME KIND?  
CAN IT BE RAISED FROM  
THE SEEDS?

OY,  
WE SHOULD  
LIVE SO LONG...



I DON'T THINK THERE WILL EVER  
BE ANOTHER PLANT LIKE THIS ONE,  
MISS...UH, MISS...?

FISHTWANGER.  
MRS. HORTENSE  
FISHTWANGER.



A PITY, AT ANY RATE, MR. KRELBOINED, I HAVE  
THE HONOR TO TELL YOU THAT YOU HAVE BEEN  
SELECTED TO RECEIVE THE ANNUAL TROPHY  
OF THE SOCIETY OF SILENT FLOWER  
OBSERVERS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

~A TROPHY?  
ME?!?





SCHPLRRRUKT!

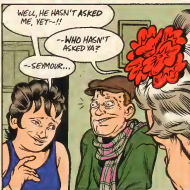
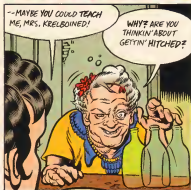


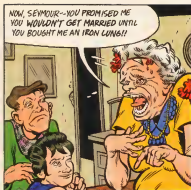


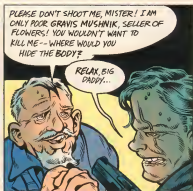




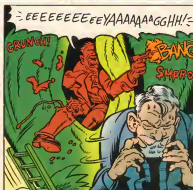
AFTER DINNER...













**CHOMP!  
MUNCH**

**GULP!**

OY, WHAT  
I DID...

**SSHHHHH! SHPEK**

THE NEXT  
MORNING...

IT'S POSITIVELY  
MONSTROUSITOUS!

**CONTINUED  
NEXT ISSUE!**

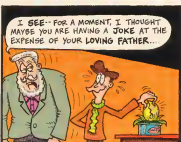
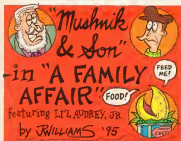
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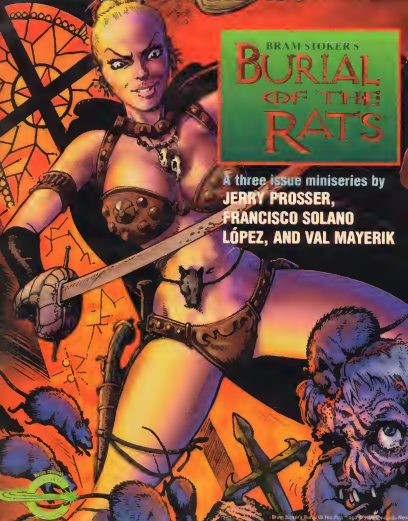
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# BEHIND THE SCENES AT WELCOME TO the LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS



Jonathan Haze as Seymour Krelboined

## Jonathan Haze played Seymour Krelboined

in the original movie version of *The Little Shop of Horrors*, produced and directed by Roger Corman. He has appeared in many other films including, *East of Eden*, *The Day the World Ended*, *It Conquered the World* and *Carnival Rock*. He has recently emerged from his retirement from acting and has a role in an independently produced film, *The Deep End* (scheduled for release this winter). Cosme Comics Director of Publishing Marcus Bastida spoke to Haze about his two-day date with film history!

**Marcus Bastida:** Do you still get fan mail for your role in the original *The Little Shop of Horrors*?

**Jonathan Haze:** Yeah, it's phenomenal. I must get hundreds of letters a year. I worked for two days of prin-

cipal photography and three nights of second unit shots thirty-five years ago, and I still get stopped on the street.

**MB:** Did you or anyone involved in the film have any idea of how popular it would eventually become?

**JH:** No. To us it was just a fun movie to work on and when it was released it didn't get any publicity. It was just one of many movies that were released that year, to someone not involved in it, it wasn't too special. Everyone who saw it liked it, but no one had any idea that its popularity would last as long as it did. In fact, it didn't really take off until Mel Welles showed it at the Cannes Film Festival several years after it was released. That's when people really started to talk about it.

Now everyone at least recognizes the title. Some people just know it by reputation, some people have seen it, and some people have memorized all the dialogue. Some of my

biggest fans weren't even born when it was made.

**MB:** You said you had fun making it even though it had a low budget?

**JH:** I was doing what I wanted to do — act. People nowadays are spoiled. They come on a set and expect it to be fully catered. When we worked on *Little Shop*, we got coffee and donuts and that's it. I didn't care. Principal photography was only two days, but those were the hardest two days of my life. We all worked incredibly long hours. I came home so tired I didn't even get undressed when I went to bed.

It was kind of a sleazy production — but the sleaziness worked for it. The Broadway musical and the musical film were too slick in my opinion. The film remake didn't even have the Mashnik character.

**MB:** How did you like working with Roger?



J.R. Williams by J.R. Williams

**JR:** Despite his reputation of being cheap, Roger was good to work for. He didn't pay very much, but he was very pleasant, and he gave me a lot of creative room to interpret my role. I had a tough job: my role required me to be kind of cute and shy, but kill people, feed them to a monster plant, and still be a sympathetic character. I had a week to prepare. It was hard.

But like I said, I enjoyed doing it.

**MB:** Did you work with some of the other low budget producers at the time? Like Ed Wood, Herschel Gordon Lewis, etc.?

**JR:** No, I became disillusioned with the industry. I fell out of favor with Roger and he gave Dick Miller all the parts that I could have played. After *Little Shop* I basically stopped working for several years. I sailed a lot. Then I realized I had to start making a living somehow and I started working behind the camera as an assistant director and producer. I did that for a few films and then went into television commer-

cials. Since then I've produced or been the production manager for thousands of commercials. I went into business with Haskell Wexler [the noted filmmaker/cinematographer] and formed a television production company. It's given me financial security, but now I'm bored. I want to get into acting again. I've got a couple of parts lined up with some smaller pictures.

I started out with small pictures and now I'm back again.

**MB:** So how did you get your start?

**JR:** I worked nights at a gas station — the first self service station in L.A. A little guy would come around now and then to buy gas. We would talk about things and he said he was working on a picture. I didn't give it much thought because those days that's what everyone said. But one day he came by and said he wanted to introduce me to the producer. The guy was Barney Ordung and the producer turned out to be Roger Corman. The picture was his first — *Monster From the Ocean Floor*, with Barney directing.



Roger Corman by David Byrne

So I was literally discovered in a gas station. After that Roger gave me parts in many of his movies. That's something I'll always appreciate. He gave me my start in the industry. Even though my acting career didn't work out the way I'd hoped, I was able to get other work through the contacts I made while working on all those pictures for Roger.

**MB:** I understand that your cousin was Buddy Rich, the famous jazz drummer; did you work in any capacity for him?

**JR:** Yeah, I toured around with his band for a couple of years before I moved out to California to become an actor. That was about 1950 or so. I did a lot for him. I was his stage manager, I wore his clothes and I carried his gun. It was a great time. Then I toured with Josephine Baker and worked as her stage manager. Touring around with Buddy and Josephine were great experiences.

Even so, my role in *Little Shop*, more so than anything else, shaped my adult life. I still go to memorabilia shows and sign autographs at \$5.00 apiece. I can make more in one weekend than I made acting in the original movie.

But what I really miss about those days is the work I got. Like I said, I want to get back into acting. I've got parts in some smaller pictures, but it's hard to break back into the business. It's a lot more complicated today; besides an agent, you need a manager and a publicist and they take 30%-40% of whatever you make. So I'm getting my roles primarily through my industry connections.



"NEXT BEST to working harder, guys: bigger credit. Inevitably — I find only one way to stay afloat: stop here!"



Roger Corman by David Byrne

# CHOKEBORE

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# COSMIC SIGNALS

June comics from Roger Corman's Cosmic Comics:  
**Welcome To The Little Shop Of Horrors #2**  
**Death Race 2020 #3**  
**Bram Stoker's Burial of the Rats #3**



Cover by rock and roll  
 portrait genius **CRIS**  
**"COOL" CORMAN** for  
 Gaped Nose, 2000 #1  
 calling this volume!



## OUR BELOVED DIRECTOR OF PUBLISHING — A THUMBNAIL PROFILE

*Second in a series of Cosmic  
 Comics employee biographies.*

Name: Marcus Bastida

Age: 31

Birthplace: Seattle, Washington

Professional background: Attorney for Roger Corman's  
 film company

Educational background: J.D., USC, B.A., University of  
 Washington

Favorite meal: barbecued chicken & coca cola

Favorite movies: *The Wild Bunch*, *The Loved One*, *The  
 Ninth Victim*, *Alien*, *Shakes the Clown*, *A Bucket of Blood*,  
*Salo*, 1984

Favorite books: *White Jazz* and *L.A. Confidential* by  
 James Ellroy, *Pop 1289* by Jim Thompson, *Chronicle of  
 Death Foretold* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez, *Hollywood* by  
 Charles Bukowski

Favorite comics: *Death Race 2020*, *Nate*

Favorite drink: rusty nail

Favorite super model: Kate Moss

## HEY, YOU! JUST WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?!

(Fill out this handy poll and help us find out! Everyone  
 who sends in a poll will win a free prize, and a small  
 number of randomly selected respondents will receive a  
 really excellent free prize!)

Age \_\_\_\_\_

male ☐ female ☐

Favorite Cosmic Comics title:

☐ *Death Race 2020*

☐ *Bram Stoker's Burial of the Rats*

☐ *Welcome to the Little Shop of Horrors*

On average, how many comics do you buy each  
 week? \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the following items have you spent money on in  
 the previous six months?

☐ CDs

☐ video games

☐ video tapes

☐ snowboard

☐ multimedia platform  
 or software

☐ skateboard

☐ clothes

☐ zit cream

☐ candy

☐ movies

☐ sports equipment

☐ magazines

☐ computer equipment  
 or software

☐

other \_\_\_\_\_

name \_\_\_\_\_

address \_\_\_\_\_

city \_\_\_\_\_

state \_\_\_\_\_ zip \_\_\_\_\_

country \_\_\_\_\_



SANTA  
CRUZ

The Branch always grows in the most public places, and  
shows us just how close the edge of the world is.

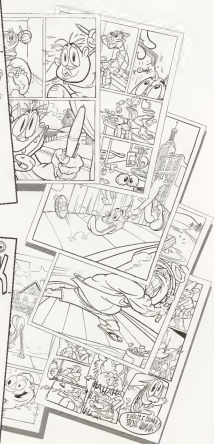
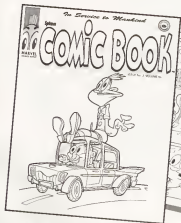
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